

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include formal drawings for Figs. 1-4. These sheets, which include Figs. 1-4, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-4.

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted to address the above amendments and issues raised in the Official Action mailed March 16, 2005.

A Request for Extension of Time to extend the period for responding to this Office Action to September 16, 2005, is filed herewith.

Following entry of amendments herein, claims 1-6, 9-11, 13-17, 24, 29-34, and 36-39 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6, 9-11, 13-17, 29-34, and 36-39 stand allowed. Claims 19-22 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,221,893 to Glaberson et al. Claims 23-24 and 28 stand objected to a being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

No new matter has been added. Amendments are made for the purpose of clarifying the subject matter. Support for requested amendments can be found in the original claims and throughout the present specification and drawings. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Drawings

The objections to the drawings as being dark and difficult to view and not showing every feature of the claimed invention are respectfully traversed.

The Official Action states that the drawings are objectionable in that they are dark and difficult to view; that the drawings do not show every feature of the claimed invention as required by 37 CFR § 1.83(a); that, in particular, the drawings do not show the subject matter of claims 7, 8, 12, 13, 18, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, and 40; and that correction is required. (Official Action, para. 1.)

Applicant respectfully submits formal drawings herein that clearly show the drawings in Figs. 1-4, as originally submitted, and that are not dark or difficult to view. Applicant cancels claims 7, 8, 12, 18, 23, 28, 35, and 40 herein.

Claims 13, 24, and 36 each are directed to a display panel comprising “a J-shaped channel disposed from one side to the other side adjacent to the top of the display panel” wherein the bracket is adapted to slidingly fit into the J-shaped channel for “adjusting the position of the package support arm laterally along the channel to adapt the merchandise display fixture to display merchandise packages having varying widths.” As described in the Present Specification and as shown in Fig. 2, the display panel 40 comprises a J-shaped channel 47 disposed from one side 43 to the other side 44 adjacent to the top 41 of the display panel 40. The bracket 62 is adapted to slidingly fit into the J-shaped channel 47 for adjusting the position of the package support arm 61 laterally along the channel 47. The merchandise display fixture 20 is thusly adapted to display merchandise packages 30 having varying widths. (Present Specification, page 16, lines 15-19; Fig. 2.) Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings show the subject matter of claims 13, 24, and 36, as required by 37 CFR § 1.83(a).

For all of these reasons, the Office is respectfully requested to withdraw the objections to the drawings.

Claims 19-22 and 25-27 — 35 USC § 102(b)

The rejections of claims 19-22 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,221,893 to Glaberson et al. are respectfully traversed.

The Official Action states that what is being displayed is not being claimed in combination with the display and, therefore, all reference thereto is of no patentable weight. (Official Action, para. 3.) Applicant cancels claims 19-22 and 25-27 herein. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 19-22 and 25-27 are moot. Therefore, the Office is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claims 19-22 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 23-24 and 28 — Allowable Subject Matter

The objections to claims 23-24 and 28 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim are respectfully traversed.

The Official Action states that claims 23-24 and 28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (Official Action, para. 4.)

Applicant cancels claims 23 and 28 herein. Applicant respectfully amends claim 24 herein by rewriting in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For all of these reasons, the Office is respectfully requested to withdraw the objections to claims 23-24 and 28 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claims 1-18 and 29-40

The Official Action states that claims 1-18 and 29-40 are allowed.


CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that a full and complete response has been made herein to the Official Action and, as such, all pending claims in this application are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests early consideration of the present application, entry of all amendments herein requested, withdrawal of all rejections and objections, and allowance of all pending claims.

The Office is respectfully invited to contact J. Michael Boggs at (336) 747-7536, to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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